

events is not real estate sales data. Further, the recited computerized bidding method involves “gathering requirement offer data ... including facilities requirements data.” It is respectfully submitted that the recited step referring to “facilities requirements data” in combination with the specific limitation in the claim that “requirement data” represents “respective necessities of a plurality of meeting planners for a **corresponding plurality of meetings or events**” patentably distinguishes independent claim 1 from Fraser ‘115. The data representing meetings or events is distinctly different than “the buying and selling of real estate or a building.”

It is respectfully submitted that the examiner cannot ignore this specific recitation of “facilities requirements data” in the claimed step --gathering requirements offer data and planner contact data from said plurality of meeting planners, the gathered requirement offer data including facilities requirements data--. Requirement data “is specifically limited to the recited data relative to “meetings and events” which is different than real estate sales data.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner’s comments that “applicant’s argument that the reference fails to show certain features of applicant’s invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., double blind asking data and bid data and re-asking data, “rebidding”) are not recited in the rejected claims” is not accurate. The following claimed steps (in claim 1) show double blind asking data and double blind bid data and a re-bid process:

(a) **presenting blinded requirement data**, without revealing the identity of the corresponding meeting planner who supplied said requirement offer data, to vendors associated with said hospitality facility data which match said facilities requirements data; ..

(b) **presenting**, to said corresponding meeting planner who supplied said requirement data, **blinded specific hospitality facility data** responsive to said requirement offer data; ..

(c)(rebid) in the event said corresponding meeting planner cannot fulfill necessities corresponding to said requirement offer data, **repeating the permitting selection step while excluding** at least one of said predetermined number of vendors and repeating the enabling communications step; ..

(d) **presenting blinded facilities offer data** to one or more meeting planners; ..

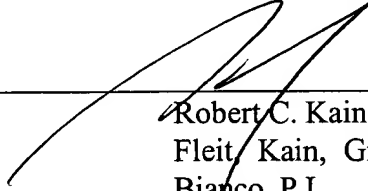
(e) **presenting**, to said at least one vendor supplying said facilities offer data, **blinded specific requirement data**; ...

(f)(rebid) in the event said at least one vendor cannot fulfill the corresponding offer to supply hospitality facilities, **repeating said permitting selection step** and presenting said blinded facilities offer data step to said one vendor **while excluding** at least one of said further predetermined number of responsive meeting planners and repeating the enabling of communications step between said meeting planners and said one vendor.

It is respectfully submitted that the bold elements identified above show double blind asking data and double blind bid data as well as rebidding, contrary to the statement by the examiner in the Final Office Action.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the examiner withdraw the §102 rejection and approve the patentability of the present case.

Respectfully Submitted,

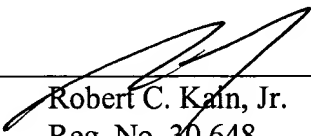


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